

IN THE CLAIMS AMEND

1. (currently amended) A powdering unit comprising:

- a nozzle strip which produces a powder gas curtain containing powder particles distributed in a carrier gas stream, which powder gas curtain moves substantially in a curtain plane, wherein the powder gas curtain moves between two angled powder guiding elements each having a first powder guiding side arranged at least one of parallel to each other and coplanar, and each having a second powder guiding side running parallel to the powder gas curtain plane.

2. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 1, wherein the second powder guiding sides form an angle differing from 90° relative to the first powder guiding sides.

3. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of the second powder guiding sides which is remote from the first powder guiding side is connected to a carrying side which is perpendicular to the second powder guiding side and on which the nozzle strip is mounted.

4. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 3, wherein the end of the carrying side which is remote from the second powder guiding side is connected via an outer side to an end of the first powder guiding side which is remote from the second powder guiding side, and a resulting prismatic wall obtained overall in this way is closed at the ends thereof by end parts to form a box.

5. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 3, wherein there is connected to the second powder guiding side, which does not carry a nozzle strip, a covering side which is connected, one of directly and with interposition of an outer side substantially perpendicular to the first powder guiding side, to that end of the first powder guiding side which is remote from the second powder guiding side, and a prismatic wall obtained overall in this way is closed at the ends thereof by end parts to form a box.

6. (original) The powdering unit according to Claim 4, wherein the box is connected to a suction fan and the first side thereof delimits a suction slot.

7. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 6, wherein the suction slot is adjacent to that end of the of the first powder guiding side which is remote from the second powder guiding side.

8. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 5, wherein the box is connected to a suction fan and the first powder guiding side thereof delimits a suction slot.

9. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 8, wherein the suction slot is adjacent to that end of the first powder guiding side which is remote from the second powder guiding side.

10. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 1, wherein a substantially coplanar extension is provided for the first powder guiding side of at least one of the powder guiding elements.

11. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 1, wherein a lead-in sloping surface is provided at that end of the first powder guiding side of at least an upstream powder guiding element which is remote from the second powder guiding side.

12. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 1, wherein a housing surrounds powder guiding elements and nozzle strip.

13. (original) A powdering station, having two powdering units according to Claim 1, the two powdering units are arranged on opposite sides of a conveying plane for a product to be sprayed with powder.

14. (original) The powdering station according to Claim 13, wherein the two powdering units are substantially aligned with each other as seen in a conveying direction of a product.

15. (currently amended) The powdering station according to Claim 13, wherein the first and second powder guiding sides of the powdering unit cooperating with a bottom side of a product to be sprayed with a powder are at a greater inclination with respect to a normal of a product-conveying plane than the second powder guiding side of the powdering unit cooperating with a top side of a product to be sprayed with a powder.

16. (currently amended) A method for operating one of a powdering unit according to Claim 1 and a powdering station according to Claim 13, wherein an air quantity drawn off via the first and second powder guiding elements each in the form a box is about 10 to 40 times that of a powder gas quantity delivered by the nozzle strip.

17. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 16, wherein the air quantity drawn off by the powder guiding elements are at least partially adjustable.

18. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 16, wherein the air quantity drawn off via the first and second powder guiding elements each in the form of a box is about 20 to 30 times that of a powder gas quantity delivered by the nozzle strip.

19. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 1, wherein an air quantity drawn off via the first and second powder guiding elements each in the form a box is about 10 to 40 times that of a powder gas quantity delivered by the nozzle strip.

20. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 1, wherein the air quantity drawn off by the powder guiding elements are at least partially adjustable.

21. (currently amended) The powdering unit according to Claim 1, wherein the air quantity drawn off via the first and second powder guiding elements each in the form of a box is about 20 to 30 times that of a powder gas quantity delivered by the nozzle strip.

22. (new) A powdering unit comprising:

- a nozzle strip which produces a powder gas curtain containing powder particles distributed in a carrier gas stream, which powder gas curtain moves substantially in a curtain plane, wherein the powder gas curtain moves between two angled powder guiding elements each having a first powder guiding side arranged at least one of parallel to each other and coplanar, and each having a second powder guiding side running parallel to the powder gas curtain plane,

- at least one of the second powder guiding sides which is remote from the first powder guiding side is connected to a carrying side which is perpendicular to the second powder guiding side and on which the nozzle strip is mounted,

- an end of the carrying side which is remote from the second powder guiding side is connected via an outer side to an end of the first powder guiding side which is remote from the second powder guiding side, and a resulting prismatic wall obtained overall in this way is closed at the ends thereof by end parts to form a box which is connected to a suction fan and the first side thereof delimits a suction slot.

23. (new) The powdering unit according to Claim 22, wherein there is connected to the second powder guiding side, which does not carry a nozzle strip, a covering side which is connected, one of directly and with interposition of an outer side substantially perpendicular to the first powder guiding side, to that end of the first powder guiding side which is remote from the second powder guiding side, and a prismatic wall obtained overall in this way is closed at the ends thereof by end parts to form a box.

24. (new) The powdering unit according to Claim 22, wherein the suction slot is adjacent to that end of the first powder guiding side which is remote from the second powder guiding side.

25. (new) The powdering unit according to Claim 23, wherein the box is connected to a suction fan and the first powder guiding side thereof delimits a suction slot.

26. (new) The powdering unit according to Claim 8, wherein the suction slot is adjacent to that end of the first powder guiding side which is remote from the second powder guiding side.

27. (new) The powdering unit according to Claim 1, wherein a lead-in sloping surface is provided at that end of the first powder guiding side of at least an upstream guiding element which is remote from the second powder guiding side.